

1 1. An apparatus comprising:

2 a) a first add/drop multiplexor comprising:

3 i) a first input for receiving a first signal from a first node,

4 ii) a first output for transmitting a second signal to a second node,

5 iii) a second input for receiving a third signal from a first output of a second add/drop
6 multiplexor, and

7 iv) a second output for transmitting a fourth signal to a first input of said second add/drop
8 multiplexor; and

9 b) said second add/drop multiplexor comprising:

10 i) said first input for receiving said fourth signal from said second output of said first
11 add/drop multiplexor,

12 ii) said first output for transmitting said third signal to said second input of said first add/drop
13 multiplexor,

14 iii) a second input for receiving a fifth signal from said second node, and

15 iv) a second output for transmitting a sixth signal to said first node.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first node is a SONET/SDH node and said first
2 signal is a series of SONET/SDH frames.